

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An antenna, comprising:
a PIFA for wireless operation within at least one frequency band; and
a parasitic element positioned to be operatively coupled to the PIFA, wherein the parasitic element is ohmically isolated from ground, and wherein RF energy is radiantly coupled between the parasitic element and the PIFA, and the parasitic element is configured and positioned so as to further induce wireless operation of the PIFA within at least one additional frequency band.
2. (Currently Amended) The antenna of claim 1, wherein the parasitic element comprises three ohmically connected arms that join at substantially right angles and that radiantly couples to at least three arms of the PIFA.
3. (Currently Amended) The antenna of claim 1, wherein the parasitic element has comprises three ohmically connected arms that are arranged in a shape that generally conforms to the shape of the PIFA.
4. (Original) The antenna of claim 1, wherein the parasitic element comprises a meandering section.
5. (Currently Amended) The antenna of claim 1, wherein the parasitic element conforms to a surface that is ~~separated from~~ above the PIFA.
6. (Currently Amended) The antenna of claim 5, wherein the parasitic element is mounted on the surface, wherein the surface is between the PIFA and the parasitic element, the surface comprises at least a portion of a case of a wireless communications device.

7. (Currently Amended) A parasitic element for use with a PIFA antenna that is for wireless operation within at least one frequency band, the parasitic element comprising:
at least two conductors arranged so as to radiantly couple RF energy between the parasitic element and the PIFA antenna,

wherein the parasitic element is configured and positioned relative to the PIFA antenna so as to further induce wireless operation of the PIFA antenna within at least one additional frequency band and wherein the parasitic element is ohmically isolated from ground.

8. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

parasitically inducing a radiation characteristic of a PIFA antenna, that wirelessly operates within at least one frequency band, resulting in wireless operation thereof within at least one additional frequency band by radiantly coupling RF energy with from the PIFA antenna to a parasitic element that is ohmically isolated from ground.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the parasitically inducing comprises:

positioning a the parasitic element so as to be operatively coupled to the PIFA antenna so as to induce the radiantly coupling of RF energy between the PIFA antenna and the parasitic element, wherein the positioning contributes to the parasitically inducing and wherein the parasitic element comprises a conductor ohmically isolated from ground.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the positioning comprises placing mounting the parasitic element about on a surface that is separated from the PIFA antenna.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the parasitic element has comprises three ohmically connected arms that are arranged in a shape that generally conforms to the shape of the PIFA antenna.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 9, wherein the parasitic element comprises a meandering section so as to further induce radiation characteristics of the PIFA antenna in an additional plurality of bands.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the parasitic element conforms to a surface that is ~~separated from~~ above the PIFA antenna.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the parasitic element is mounted on the surface and the surface comprises at least a portion of a case of a wireless communications device.

15. (Currently Amended) A wireless communications device, comprising:
at least one of a receiver for wirelessly receiving transmitted signals and a transmitter for wirelessly transmitting signals;

a PIFA antenna, electrically coupled to the at least one of a receiver and a transmitter, for wireless operation within at least one frequency band; and

a parasitic element, positioned so as to be operatively coupled to the PIFA antenna, for radiantly coupling RF energy between the parasitic element and the PIFA antenna, the parasitic element being configured and positioned so as to further induce radiation of the PIFA antenna within at least one additional frequency band, wherein the parasitic element is ohmically isolated from ground.

16. (Currently Amended) The wireless communications device of claim 15, wherein the parasitic element has comprises three ohmically connected arms that are arranged in a shape that generally conforms to the shape of the PIFA antenna.

17. (Canceled).

18. (Currently Amended) The wireless communications device of claim 15, wherein the parasitic element conforms to a surface that is ~~separated from~~ above the PIFA.

19. (Original) The wireless communications device of claim 18, wherein the surface comprises at least a portion of a case of the wireless communications device.

20. (New) The antenna according to claim 1, wherein the PIFA is mounted above a ground plane, the PIFA having a first side facing a plane containing the ground plane, and wherein the parasitic element is located above a second side of the PIFA that is opposite the first side.

21. (New) The antenna according to claim 6, wherein the PIFA is in contact with a first side of the surface and the parasitic element is in contact with an opposite side of the surface, the opposite side being opposite the first side.